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# CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES  
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BRANTFORD, ONT., NOV., 1897.

WHOLE No.  
393

Our brethren, or rather some of our brethren, on the other side of the line have been advocating Paraffine Paper over the Sections. Paraffine paper over the sections to prevent the bees from propolis the sections. We do not hesitate to say that no bee-keeper anxious to produce first-class honey in sections, willing to master that business, should use such paper. In the first place it is not necessary as far as propolis is concerned and in the next, the best filled sections cannot be secured without a bee space above the sections. Bee-Keepers are safe in estimating very highly, the value of getting bee-keepers to produce better comb honey. There is any amount of comb honey finished in an inferior way which cannot be produced at a profit and blocks the way to the sale of a better article, and which tends to depreciate the price of honey generally. Should the editor of this journal be placed in the position which Ontario Bee-keepers have asked the government to place him, it will be one of the directions which he will act with the consent of the government under whom he will serve.

\* \* \*

The paper written by Mr. M. B. Holmes, President Ontario Bee-keepers' Association, and given at the Buffalo convention, was very well received. There are one or two errors in it. The By-Laws of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association to conform to the Agricultural and Arts act, was opened

up and largely done by the editor of Canadian Bee Journal at the Brantford Convention. We think when the Foul Brood Act was mentioned, Mr. Gemmell deserved quite as much honorable mention as some others did in other matters. We know that Mr. Gemmell is a very modest man, but we should like to have the facts from him as a matter of history. Again, as this paper is supposed to be history making, we should like to say that there are men who did their share to develop bee-keeping in Canada long before Mr. D. A. Jores appeared upon the field, and who helped to build as solidly as Mr. Jones ever did. Remember we are not disparaging the gentlemen named. We are only saying that there are many others who deserved credit quite as much as those referred to. We could not expect so broad a subject to be dealt with fully in so short a time. More than that, with all Mr. Holmes' natural abilities, his correspondence with bee-keepers, his travels have been too limited, and his age prevents him from knowing much about the subject, unless at second hand. We will guarantee there are men with hundreds of colonies of bees he has never heard of, and then he makes the mistake to think, judging from the greater part of his paper, that the history of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association is a history of bee-keeping in Canada. Having been an active member of the O. B. K. A. for many years, and its secretary, vice-president and president, we do not wish to disparage its work, but many an able bee-keeper has never been a member

of it, and we should not over-estimate our own importance as members of that association. When it comes to bee-keeping outside of our own province the heading is simply a misnomer. Canadian bee-keeping is making and has made history in Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick to the east, and Manitoba, The Territories, and British Columbia to the West. Every one of these places have been and are struggling and advancing. Quebec at least under proper guidance is destined to be quite as important a Province for bee-keeping as California. The address is one not covering the subject. We are, however, much pleased that Mr. Holmes has undertaken the task, and, that he has done so much. We might with good results continue the work. We should, before some have passed away who can furnish valuable information, of the early struggles of bee-keeping in various parts of the Dominion. Will those in possession of facts kindly contribute as briefly and concisely as possible. In Ontario the Rev. W. F. Clarke could give us something as well as others. We have not upheld Mr. Clarke in recent years, but we have unstintingly admitted that at one time through his writings Mr. Clarke was of service to the bee-keeping industry, and in that way to the country. Let us hear when, to your knowledge, bees were brought to your vicinity, when the first movable frame hives were introduced, when Italian bees were brought in and through whom, and we shall have something more of historical interest.

\* \* \*

In this number we publish the proposed changes in the constitution of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union. At the Buffalo Convention the Editor of The Canadian Bee Journal brought up the question of what relation Canadian bee-keepers held to the Union, when a resolution was passed to the effect that Canadian bee-keepers joining would have exactly the same rights that bee-keepers in the United

States would have. The more Canadians will join the more we will have a right to have our interests in general protected. Something must ere long be done to prosecute those who are ignorant and indifferent about the act prohibiting the spraying of fruit trees while in blossom. This is not done by intelligent fruit growers, but by a lower strata who do not do sufficient thinking to rise to that level. They are injuring their own blossoms even more than the bees. Another item: those who are interested in the growing and propagation of red clover, and what farmer is not, are in some sections awaking to the importance of this matter. The same illegal spraying is destroying the bumble bee. We know that on account of the length of the corolla of this blossom Australia could grow no red clover seed until the bumble bee was imported to that country. Mr. Jacob Alpaugh, Galt, drew our attention to the growing anxiety of the more intelligent farmers on this score.

### Grading Honey.

Mr. H. E. Wilder, of Riverside, is the official grader of Exchange honey. In the process of grading every can is removed from the case and inspected as to grade. Every can is weighed and labeled and the net weight of the honey marked on the label with the grade, date of inspection, and name of grader. It makes no difference how much the case weighs the producer gets the actual weight of his honey. The usual tare for cans and cases is 16 lbs. The case varies so much in weight that the producer generally loses from two to three pounds of honey in the tare, for the dealer is sure to put the tare high enough to cover heavyweight cases, when many times they weigh less than 15 lbs. Mr. Wilder estimates the saving to the bee-keeper by weighing up separately and giving actual weight at from \$12 to \$15 per car. If bee-keepers would just turn in and make the Exchange strong enough we can arrange to give tare only on the wooden case. The producer should receive pay for the tin case, for it is an article of value after the honey is used.—The Rural Californian

# UNITED STATES BEE-KEEPERS' UNION MEETING

Co-operation of Bee-keepers, by George W. Brodbeck, Los Angeles, California.

We are living in an age when the presentation of practical problems is commanding more attention than at any time in the world's history.

We meet with evidences of this on every hand; the labor agitations, the manufacturing combines, the various exchanges and other co-operative organizations, all point to one object, and that is, to advance and protect the interests represented.

The existing state of things to-day demand just such organizations, and no class can stand aloof and expect to successfully combat surrounding influences without organization. The producing element to which we belong should be especially interested in the solution of this problem, but, unfortunately, we are, as yet, in a chaotic state, drifting about on the sea of circumstances, hoping for the good that "might have been" but never comes.

The conditions that present themselves to the bee-keepers of the United States to-day are not theories but plain, everyday facts, and you can scarcely refer to a copy of any of our bee journals that does not contain an article bearing on some of the evils now existing. The theories advanced have been more numerous than the colors of the rainbow; some claiming that it is due to over-production, while another that it is under consumption, others that adulteration is the cause, while, last but not least of all, improper distribution is responsible.

The first course of a physician with a diseased patient is a proper diagnosis of the case, and we claim that the diseased condition of our industry has been diagnosed minutely, and every one of the symptoms referred to proved to exist, and if this is true, we have reached the most serious stage of our industry, for if adulteration exists to the extent claimed, and continued, what will be the result? If there is an over-production and the output on the increase, where is our remedy?

If it is under-consumption in one section and vice-versa in another, how are we going to equalize this? If over-production is nothing more than the result of improper distribution, where is our machinery to relieve this state? The remedial stage is the most difficult of all to the experimental physician, but to the man of experience the selection of a remedy is not an experiment, for positive results always follow positive remedies.

In our present state we also have a positive remedy, and while we do not claim them a "cure all" for every ill that besets the bee industry, we do claim it has proved its efficacy in the cure of the diseased state of kindred industries, and we do not hesitate to second the advocacy of co-operation as a positive remedy for our own relief, and it is evident that what it has done for other producers it can do us. Co-operation in this state has completely revolutionized former methods in the disposal of the various industrial products. The thrifty, wide-awake producer, who, a few years ago, saw nothing but disaster staring him in the face; with the grip of the middle man tightening his grasp more and more as the years passed by, with a far distant market, a perishable product, prohibitory freight rates and many other seemingly insurmountable difficulties; all of which have been overcome by the indomitable will and perseverance of the California fruit power. The California Bee-keepers' Exchange, although of recent growth, is proving a potent factor this, its first season's experience, in the upholding of prices, reducing the cost of supplies to its membership to a minimum, and instilling a feeling of protection that never existed before, and we predict that if the business of this organization is conducted in accordance with the outlined footsteps of the California fruit growers like success is sure to follow.

Co-operation has its opponents as well as exponents, and there will be those present who will take decided issue with the views

presented, but the truth will always bear investigation.

Opposition to co-operation as a rule is due to two causes—misinterpretation of its objects and selfishness. The true spirit of co-operation is the hand that assists his neighbor, and rejoices in the welfare of others as well as his own. The selfishness and short-sightedness displayed by the refusal to assist in the disposal of our neighbors' product is beyond comprehension, for the result is sure to enhance the value of our own. We all know that some of our most successful producers are incapable salesmen, and the depreciation in prices is often due to this very incompetency. That improper distribution has much to do with our existing difficulties is undoubtedly true, for the ratio of honey consumption in the United States is less than one pound to an individual, an nothing but co-operation can correct this.

Co-operation is not a selfish project, for it only recognizes the individual in his product, and the product in accordance with the grade, and it is the only method that harmonizes all antagonistic interests.

The feasibility of this plan, as stated, has been fully demonstrated in practice, and we firmly believe that until the bee-keepers of this country band together in the form of local and other associations, the existing state of hopeless expectation will positively continue and the demoralization of prices will be repeated every successive season.

The formation of local associations result in the concentration of the interests of many, the selection of the best material at hand to supervise the whole, the buyer deals with one instead of many, all grading is equalized as well as prices, and by systematic methods in course of time establish such a reputation that results in a direct demand for their product instead of glutting the market by improper distribution. Then as "great trees from little acorns," so shall we also witness the growth and formation of other kindred associations as the natural development of the local organizations demand.

The absurdity of beginning at the head instead of the foundation has been fully experienced in the pioneer work of other associations, and while we fully endorse the establishment of a National Exchange, as previously stated, we can not expect success to follow such an enterprise until local, district and state associations demand it.

"Hope, though, never dies" and the inspiration following the birth of "The infant," at Lincoln, Nebraska, a few months ago is reviving the dormant facul-

ties of a great many who had fallen into the slough of despair. With hope renewed all eyes are turned toward this new star of a stiny for deliverance from present bondage.

The infant development of this new United States Association will depend very much on the atmospheric surroundings, and the generous diet given it in the form of financial support. We feel fully assured of the first in the absolute confidence we have in the faculty who have it in charge, the enlargement and scope of its work depends entirely upon the individual bee-keeper and it is for us to make it and mould it to suit our varied wants.

As a closing theme and one bearing on the subject of operation for your present or future consideration, and this is the establishment in connection with the present organization of a Bee-Keepers' Information Bureau.

The object would be to supply its members with all information at hand in regard to matters bearing on industry. The establishment of agencies to glean information for, to supervise, and disseminate matters of interest to the members for the control office. The following would be some of the benefits accruing to the participating membership:—

A rating of individual responsibility, the possibility of securing such information pertaining to members, or of anyone dealing in our product; the amount of honey produced in every section of the Union; by the statistics available the centers of over production and under-production could be readily determined. It would be an effective agency in ferreting out and prosecuting the adulterator, when once this organization has secured national legislation, and we can never expect to suppress this foe to our industry until this is accomplished.

#### The New Union's Present Constitution.

The New Union's Constitution was somewhat overhauled at the recent Buffalo convention; or perhaps we would better say that certain amendments were recommended, the same to be approved or rejected at the time of the annual election to be held in December. But before giving the suggested changes, we here show The New Union's Present Constitution.

#### ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This organization shall be known as the United States Bee-Keepers' Union.

#### ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS.

Its objects shall be to promote and protect the interests of its members; to defend them in their lawful rights;

to enforce laws against the adulteration of honey; to prosecute dishonest honey commission-men; and to advance the pursuit of bee-culture in general.

#### ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP.

SEC. 1.—Any person may become a member upon the payment of a membership fee of one dollar annually to the Secretary or General Manager on or before the first day of January of each year, except as provided in Section 8 of article VI of this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS.

SEC. 1.—The officers of this Union shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Board of Directors which shall consist of a General Manager and six Directors, whose terms of office shall be for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualified; and the Director, aside from the General Manager, receiving the largest number of votes shall be chairman of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE V.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 1.—The President, Vice-President, and Secretary shall be elected by ballot by a majority of the members present at each annual meeting of the Union, and shall constitute the Executive Committee.

SEC. 2.—The General Manager and the Board of Directors shall be elected by ballot during the month of December of each year by a majority of the members voting; blank Postal Card ballots for this purpose, accompanied by a full list of the membership, shall be mailed to each member by the General Manager; and said ballots shall be returned to a committee of two members, who shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, whose names and postoffice address shall be sent to the General Manager by said Executive Committee on or before the 15th of the November preceding the election. Said committee of two shall count the ballots and certify the result to the general manager during the first week in January.

#### ARTICLE VI.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 1.—*President*.—It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the annual meeting of the Union; and to perform such other duties as may devolve upon the presiding officer.

SEC. 2.—*Vice-President*.—In the absence of the President the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

SEC. 3.—*Secretary*.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of the annual meeting; to

receive membership fees; to furnish the General Manager with the names and postoffice address of those who become members at the annual meeting; to pay to the treasurer of the Union all moneys left in his hands after paying the expenses of the annual meeting; and to perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Union; and he shall receive such sum for his services, not exceeding \$25, as may be granted by the Board of Directors.

SEC. 4.—*General Manager*.—The General Manager shall be Secretary of the Board of Directors, and shall keep a list of the names of the members with their postoffice address; receive membership fees, and be Treasurer of this Union. He shall give a bond in such amount, and with such conditions as may be required and approved by the Board of Directors, for the faithful performance of his duties, and perform such other services as may be required of him by the Board of Directors, or by this Constitution.

SEC. 5.—At the time of sending the ballots to the members for the annual election of the Board of Directors, he shall also send to each member a statement of the financial condition of the Union and a report of the work done by said Board of Directors.

SEC. 6.—The Board of Directors shall pay the General Manager such sum for his services as said Board may deem proper, but not to exceed 20 per cent. of the receipts of the Union. Said Board shall meet at such time and place as it may decide upon.

SEC. 7.—*Board of Directors*.—The Board of Directors shall determine what course shall be taken by the Union upon any matter presented to it for consideration, that does not conflict with this Constitution; and cause such extra but equal assessments to be made on each member as may become necessary, giving the reason to each member why such assessment is required; provided that not more than one assessment shall be made in any one year, and not to an amount exceeding the annual membership fee, without a majority vote of all the members of the Union.

SEC. 6.—Any member refusing, or neglecting to pay said assessment as required by the Board of Directors shall forfeit his membership, and his right to become a member of the Union for one year after said assessment becomes due.

#### ARTICLE VII.—FUNDS.

SEC. 1.—The funds of this Union may be used for any purpose that the Board of Directors may consider for the interest of

its member, and for the advancement of the pursuit of bee-culture.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—VACANCIES.

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled by the Executive Committee; and any vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE IX.—MEETINGS.

This Union shall hold annual meetings at such time and place as shall be agreed upon by the Executive Committee, who shall give at least 60 days' notice in the bee-periodicals, of the time and place of meeting.

#### ARTICLE X.—AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a majority vote of all the members, provided notice of said alteration or amendment has been given at a previous annual meeting.

Secretary Mason has written out the changes proposed at Buffalo, and forwarded them to us for insertion in these columns. He presents them as follows:

Mr. Editor:—At the recent meeting of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union, held in Buffalo, N. Y., the following amendments to the Constitution were proposed by A. B. Mason, in accordance with article X of the Constitution:

#### CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES RECOMMENDED.

That Article III, section 1, be amended so as to read: "Any person who is in accord with the purpose and aim of this Union, and will work in harmony with the same, may become a member by the payment of one dollar annually to the General Manager or Secretary; and said membership shall expire at the end of one year from the time of the said payment, except as provided in Section 8 of Article VI of this Constitution."

That Article IV be so amended as to read: "Section 1.—The officers of this Union shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Board of Directors, which shall consist of a General Manager and six Directors whose term of office shall be for three years, or until their successors are elected and qualified, except that the term of office of the two Directors having received the smallest number of votes at the time of voting for Directors in March, 1897, shall expire Dec. 31, 1897; and that the term of office of the two Directors having received the next largest number of votes at the said time of voting shall expire Dec. 31, 1898; and that the term of office of the two Direc-

tors having received the largest number of votes at the said time of voting shall expire Dec. 31, 1899."

"Section 2.—The Board of Directors shall choose their own chairman."

That Section 2 of Article V be amended so as to read: "The General Manager and the two Directors to succeed the two whose term of office expires each year, shall be elected by ballot during the month of December of each year by a majority vote of the members voting; and the Board of Directors shall prescribe how all votes of the members shall be taken."

That the words "at the annual meeting" in section 8 of Article VI be substituted by the words, "Whenever requested by him; to make a report at the annual meeting of the Union, and whenever requested to do so by the Board of Directors, of all moneys received and paid out by him since the last annual meeting."

That Section 5 of Article VI be amended so as to read: "At the time of sending the ballots to the members for the annual election, he shall also send to each member a list of the names of all members, and an itemized statement of all receipts and expenditures of the funds of the Union by the Board of Directors, and a report of the work done by said Board of Directors."

That the words "altered or." in Article X, be erased. A. B. MASON, Sec.

The amendments are now before the New Union's members as they will be presented to be voted upon later on. As all of them were almost unanimously approved at Buffalo, they will doubtless be adopted and become a part of the Constitution in December.

#### The Shipping of Comb Honey.

BY E. KRETCHMER, RED OAK, IOWA.

Man never gets too old to learn, proves true to many of us. Although I had shipped tons of honey prior to 1893, it was during the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, whilst in charge of the Iowa honey exhibit, that several heretofore unnoticed changes in the packing of comb honey, presented themselves and which during the second installment of honey for said Exposition, was put to practical test.

Prior to the time named, although we packed the honey with due care, I had no knowledge of the actual condition in which it arrived at destination.

Although the first shipment of honey for the Columbian Exposition was packed with great care; many of the cases, when unpacking them at the fair grounds, were not in as good condition as we desired they should be; in some of the cases it appeared

as if only a single comb had become detached from the section, and in the moving of the crate, this loose comb had fallen against the next comb and knocked it off the section, and the force of the two combined against the next, had broken it out likewise, until the entire row of honey from glass to back of crate, was broken down; the leaking honey, although retained in the case, soaked into the wood of the next sections, and also damaged these.

In the second shipment for the Iowa exhibit, we effectually prevented the above described damages by constructing the shipping cases wider and deeper; we placed a sheet of manilla paper in the bottom with the edges neatly turned up, forming a shallow pan, within this pan we nailed small triangular strips on which we placed the sections of honey, and between the several rows, inserted wood separators, in the same manner as in the supers. Whilst the use of paper pans in the shipping cases and strips of wood under the sections is now well known to many, it may be a matter of surprise to those, to know, that they are not yet in general use, and the writer found it necessary to write numerous letters, to fully explain their uses.

Separators in shipping cases are, I think, not yet very much used but I find that if separators are used, a comb broken from a section, is confined to the space within that section, it cannot break or deface the next adjoining section, whereas, if the separators are not added, the entire row is frequently broken down. Wood separators are cheap, costing less than 2 cents for a case, whilst their benefit is more than ten-fold; I therefore think that no shipping case is complete without the separators.

I have been to some expense, both at the World's Fair, as well as whilst visiting numerous honey markets, to ascertain the most desirable size, form and detailed construction of shipping cases, and it appears that Commission merchants and retail dealers in honey prefer a case holding 24 sections, single tier high, with glass on one side, from 2 to 3 inches wide, with the top boards fitting between the front cleat and the back, so as to hold the top in place whilst retailing from the case, and so as not to show the joint on the front or glass cleat.

In these few lines I will not say where, or to whom to ship, but outline more fully the form of shipping cases, how to fill them, and how to forward them and when, and hereby prepare the way for a fruitful discussion.

As already stated, the 24 section case, showing four sections through the glass,

seems to be preferred, and therefore we should furnish the size and form desired. In construction the cases should be light, the cleats for holding the glass should be grooved, not rabbeted, and the glass slid into these grooves so that, should the glass break, the grooves will retain the pieces in position. Having placed the paper pan and wood strips in the bottom, select 24 sections of honey, as nearly alike as you can; place four average sections near the glass top up, that is, in the same position as they were on the hive; if inverted some open cell is liable to leak, and the honey running over the white face of the comb, mar the beauty of its appearance. Should there be a little space endwise, make them tight with little wedges at the end; next drop in a wood separator, which should be as wide as the height of the section, and in this manner fill the case; wedge up the back of the sections, so they are tight sideways, lay another sheet of paper, which should be large enough to project a little with the edges, then fasten on the top, preferably with small screws.

Goods shipped by express must be speedily loaded and unloaded, and are consequently not handled with the same care as freight shipments, where ample time is usually taken to load and unload; therefore honey shipped by freight arrives usually in better condition than when shipped by express; but express shipments go through in less time than shipments by freight, and if as a matter of speed, honey has to be shipped by express, I find that single shipping cases without being crated or connected with other cases, go by express in better condition, are handled more carefully, than heavier crates; but shipments by freight or in wagons should have 6 or 8 cases crated together in open crates so as to show the glass and honey through the openings, with a liberal supply of straw under it. The addition to the directions to so load that the edge of the comb should be towards the locomotive, is, I find never regarded, as the crates are usually so placed to fit the space in the car; but the top of the crate should have in large plain letters this direction: "THIS SIDE MUST BE UP," which is usually regarded.

In hauling, I advise the use of vehicles with springs, if such cannot be had, a liberal supply of straw under the crates and slow driving would be desirable.

Do not attempt to ship comb honey great distances in warm weather, nor when the honey is liable to freeze, as it is more liable to break and leak.

I well remember how a careless shipment in hot weather nearly ruined the honey market of a city; the honey arrived



badly broken and the cases leaking; the dealer in his eagerness to dispose of it, labelled it:—"Comb honey, 8c.; the market reports of the local paper next quoted: Comb honey, 8cts per pound;" this quotation spread to near-by places and, for months, this was the prevailing price.

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Annual Meeting of the Ontario  
Bee-Keepers' Association.

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The eighteenth annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the County Council Chamber, Hamilton, on the 7th, 8th and 9th of December, next.

The executive committee have endeavored to have a good programme and they feel satisfied that those taking part in it, will each be able to do their part creditably.

Besides many prominent bee-keepers, we have the consent of the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agricultural; President Mills, Ontario Agricultural College, to be with us, Dr. Macfarlane, Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, will be with us very likely, also Prof. Frank Shutt, will try and be there.

There have been arrangements made with the proprietor of the St. Nicholas hotel at a rate of \$1 per day for those attending the convention.

The usual arrangements will be made with the C. P. R. and G. T. R. railways for delegate's certificates. All attending should purchase a full fare single to Hamilton, and get a certificate from the agent that the ticket is purchased from.

PROGRAMME.

7th, 2 p. m.—Meeting called to order and the minutes read.

2.30 p. m.—President's address.

3.30 p. m.—Paper by J. W. Sparling, on the Management of Apiaries in spring.

Discussion and question drawer.

8 p. m.—Communications.

8.30 p. m.—Paper by Jno. Newton, on the outline of work during extracting season.

9 p. m.—Paper by J. B. Hall, on Harvesting Comb Honey.

Discussion and question drawer.

8th 9 a. m.—Official reports.

10.30 a. m.—Paper by W. T. Coggsell, West Groton, N. Y., on Out Apiaries.

Discussion and question drawer.

2 p. m.—Discussion or paper on general topics.

3 p. m.—Election of officers.

Discussion on how to make the association more useful.

Question drawer.

8 p. m.—The evening will be given to the visiting gentlemen: Hon. John Dryden, Pres. Mills, Dr. McFarlane, Prof. Shutt, R. McKnight, and others who have not yet consented to be with us.

There have been invitations sent to prominent gentlemen that have not been put on the programme, as we have not learned that they can be present.

Wm. Couse, Sec'y.,  
Streetsville, Ont.

W. Z. Hutchinson is going to try and be at Hamilton, if so he will give us something interesting.

[The editor of the Canadian Bee Journal was asked to contribute a paper, and selected for his subject "Organization Among Bee-Keepers," but when the programme was sent in, and he found that Mr. McKnight was on the programme he withdrew. Mr. McKnight, as every fair-minded person who attended the last meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association knows, repeatedly made efforts to create a disturbance in the meeting. He attacked again and again and although every possible provocation was shown the editor forebore to respond. Again and again this was done and those who, up to then were his warmest supporters were disgusted with that gentleman. Mr. McKnight repeated this at the Buffalo convention, and in this way so disgusted everyone that when he spoke on a certain occasion we are told, as a protest, the Canadians walked out in a body. We are saying nothing about appearing at conventions time and again the worse for liquor. If a man who so merits to be ignored, is by one or two executive officers to be still trotted out to the injury of the association, we do not want to appear on the programme, and having some self-respect left, beg to decline.—Ed.]

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The Trans-Mississippi and International  
Exposition.

Upon going to press we can only say, hold 20 lbs of your best comb honey if you have any thought of showing at the above Exposition. More next month.

# Questions

What is the best time of the year to introduce queens?

I introduce them at any time between the first of April and the first of November. Perhaps the least risk is taken when the early honey flow is at its best. Be sure the colony that is to receive the queen is queenless, and is not under the influence of laying workers. A colony—big or little—that has been queenless for only two or three days is in the safest condition to receive a queen.

G. W. DERNARCE,  
Christiansburg, Ky., U. S. A.

In June, when the colonies are strong enough to divide.

[This was mailed on train between Tweed and Kingston, will the sender please forward his name.—Ed.]

The safest time is during the main honey flow, but it is usually more convenient to attend to it after the main flow, or at the beginning of the fall flow.

R. A. MARRISON.

There are so many other factors that enter into a problem of this kind that the question is difficult to answer. My own rule is, to change queens only when the old one begins to "play out". If the desire is to change the blood, say from blacks to Italians, or something of the kind, the best time to do it is when honey is coming freely into the hives. If, however, the aim is to keep the apiary up to "concert pitch" all the time, then make the changes as often as a queen begins to show a failing of her powers. The rule is to keep your colonies strong, when there is honey to be gathered and to accomplish this end, only prolific queens should be allowed to remain in the hives. By following the above rule, in the light of common sense, experience and good judgement, one will not go far astray.

J. E. POND.

North Attleboro, Mass.

I cannot speak from experience, but would say during buckwheat bloom, which would be in August in my locality.

W. SCOTT.

Swarming time. EUGENE SECOR.

When the bees are gathering honey, the more rapidly the better.

DOCTOR A. B. MASON.

## Beekeeping Interests.

Mr. R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, was in the city yesterday. In the interests of of beekeepers he had an interview with the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture. There is at present an act to prohibit the spraying of fruit trees while in blossom. The object of this is to prevent the poisoning of honey bees when working on the flowers. Mr. Holtermann stated that the intelligent fruit-grower knew perfectly well that it was not alone useless but even endangered the fruit crop to spray fruit trees while in blossom. The injury was done by a few who were still ignorant in this respect, and a less number who did things in a slipshod way. The bulk of mischief was done by men who were about the country with spraying outfits, charging so much for each tree. It was to their interest to begin as early and spray as late as they could induce the farmer to give the contract. To encourage his system was a financial injury to every one but the operator. Mr. Holtermann stated that quite a number of red clover seed growers were becoming alarmed on the same score. It was well known on account of the length of the corolla of the red clover blossom it was very difficult to colonize it and before Australia could produce red clover seed they had to import the bumble-bee. The growers of this seed were fearing that as during fruit blossom the queen being the only survivor over winter of a nest would be poisoned working on the blossoms. This means the destruction of an entire nest and its increase. Mr. Dryden promised to try and find some method of informing the public.—Toronto Globe Oct 14th.

## A Report.

From fourteen colonies, one of which was queenless, I had 1100 pounds of extracted and 350 pounds of finished and 60 pounds of unfinished sections. In addition my bees have abundance of stores for winter and I lost several first swarms.

ALEX. PETRIE.

Brantford, Sept. 24th, 1897.

[Mr. Petrie resides in the city limits of Brantford.—Ed.]

## Some Questions.

### Winter Stores.—The Bee Moth.

*Editor Canadian Bee Journal:*

DEAR SIR.—I have a colony of bees in one of your No. 3 Dov. hives (8 frames), that weigh 61 pounds, such as it now stands—that is after the top hive with the surplus honey has been taken off. I see that 30 to 35 pounds of stores are required to winter. Would you kindly let me know if I am safe in having 35 pounds of stores in this hive. That would be allowing 26 pounds for weight of hive, frames (8), bee glue and bees, and do you think it is all right to winter in a good large dry cellar. I think I took the upper hive off too late, so as to give them time to store below in the brood nest, as they seem to have been storing all above, leaving the lower hive short of stores. Now I must tell you what I have been doing and how I succeeded for my first attempt with bees. As I wrote you before, I purchased an old box hive of common black bees last spring, and transferred them into two of your No. 3 Dov. hives (provided them with brood) on July 1st, and Italianized them both with untested queen I got from you. Now one of my hives weigh 95 pounds and other of pounds, as stated above, and besides have 60 pounds of honey to extract. I would have done much better than this if I had had a little experience and not have handled them as much as I did. Total outlay of money, about \$10. Stock and surplus honey now on hand, \$26. How's that? As I am very anxious to winter these two colonies safely, any suggestions from you will be gladly received.

Yours truly,

Quebec, Oct. 9th, '97. A. R. ROBINSON.

P. S.—The untested queens turned out pure Italian stock.

[ANSWER—I am in receipt of your letter, and am pleased to hear that your bees have so well done, especially in the district where the honey flow has been comparatively poor. I must confess that in the past I have considered Italian bees more desirable for many reasons, but have not considered them much better for actual honey gathering. From many reports I

have heard from bee-keepers in the Ottawa Valley who have had our stock of Italian bees side by side with the black, I must confess that I believe they must be decidedly better for honey gathering. There is of course, something in the strain of bees, but would not like to give that sole credit. As to wintering bees, 61 pounds for stores, bees, hive, etc., is in my estimation, quite sufficient for winter stores. You will, in all probability, have thirty pounds of honey. You certainly did very well with your bees. ED.]

THE BEE MOTH.

*Editor Canadian Bee Journal:*

DEAR SIR—Kindly let me know the best means of destroying the bee moth. Answer through the Canadian Bee Journal.

J. BULL.

[ANSWER—To your question, "How to destroy the Bee Moth" would say, that the black bees are much more liable to attack from the bee moth. Italian bees defend their hive much better. Next, you want to keep strong colonies. In nearly every instance serious damage is only done when the hive is weak and does not cover its combs. Accurately made hives with correct bee space, is important. Next, leave extracting combs on the hives until danger from bee moth is passed. When taken from the hive, keep the combs spread in the hive just as they should be when with the bees, and put several sheets of paper between each tier of combs, closing up any opening that may be in the supers or bodies of hives containing combs. This is the best method of preventing the bee moth. Frequent brimstoning will destroy them.—ED.]

Israel Overhold, South Cayuga, says: I have taken The Canadian Bee Journal from its first issue. It never was so well conducted, and full of good, practical information, as at the present time

Mr. Gemmill has been very busy this summer. He has promised to renew his articles.—Ed.

Next number of The Canadian Bee Journal will contain several County convention reports.

## Methods of Securing and Managing Swarms.

—HON. R. L. TAYLOR.

Superintendent of the Michigan Experiment Apiary.

The season of 18'6, in point of swarming has been a remarkable one. The bees lightly set at naught all the accepted canons of bee-keepers respecting that function. Lack of great strength had little restraining influence, and abundance of room, even in the brood-nest, none at all.

Swarming began the last of May, continuing just a month, during a very moderate flow of nectar, ending abruptly when that flow was at its best at the height of basswood bloom, though even then the secretion of nectar was very light. Not more than one or two per cent. of the colonies did anything at all in the supers before casting swarms, and many did not wait to fill the combs in the brood-nest. Under such circumstances it is safe to say that it would not be wise to cease efforts to determine the best methods of securing and managing swarms, on account of any bright prospect of speedy success in breeding out the swarming instinct, or even of any satisfactory invention that will practically allay it. Indeed it is a very serious question whether if this object could be secured in either of these ways, it would be satisfactory to more than a very small percentage of apiaries.

There are always more or less losses from various causes to be made good, and there is no cheaper or more satisfactory way of doing this than through the increase by swarming. The loss of even a few colonies each winter during a series of unfavorable years, where there is little or no swarming with occasional failure of queens and lack of stores, often best met by the uniting of colonies, sometimes makes the aggregate reduction in numbers rather startling. Then the serious item of the rearing of queens comes in, which must be done artificially if increase is secured without swarming. No doubt as good queens can be secured in this way as those obtained from cells built and cared for under the swarming impulse, but how few, comparatively, are the apiarists who have the aptitude, skill and punctuality required to do it. Nineteen out of twenty, for one reason or another, would fail, and in these times of financial stringency and uncertain honey crops, they cannot afford to purchase.

Besides, it can hardly yet be safely denied that bees receive an impetus to work by finding themselves in their newly-pitched tent, destitute of brood and provisions.

That there are some weighty objections to swarming, if it could be safely repressed is not to be denied, but these may be reduced to two, namely the time and labor required for watching and hiving swarms and the danger of loss from swarms absconding. Some may hold that undesirable increase is another and more serious one still, but one should be easily able to obviate that, and, indeed, thereby reap a decided advantage. It is only a question of the disposal of the brood in the hive from which the swarms issue, and that is generally, especially in early swarming, very valuable. To accomplish this, it is not necessary, as might be inferred from some discussions of the subject, that the brood, when hatched or before, should be returned to the identical colony that produced it; indeed, it may usually be used with decidedly greater advantage in other ways. There are always at the opening of the honey season some colonies that are not up to the strength required for the best work in the supers. Let the hives full of rapidly hatching brood be distributed among such deficient colonies as fast as they can be obtained, first driving out of each all the bees left behind, in the hive which with its swarm is, or is to be, put on the stand. Thus, in a few days, if swarming continues, all may be got into excellent condition.

Frequently, also, there are colonies out of condition on account of being possessed of superannuated or otherwise worthless queens. Destroy such queens as fast as hives of brood can be obtained, and place one on each now queenless colony, and in a few days it will be rejuvenated both in its strength and its queen. In some of these operations the advantages of a horizontally-divisible brood-chamber are especially apparent, for if one wishes to help two colonies with the brood of one it can be done without extra labor, or if one wishes to rear a few surplus queens to meet emergencies, without driving out the bees remaining after the swarm issues, by simply dividing the brood chamber, he may secure two queens as easily and as cheaply as one. Other ways of disposing of the brood thus obtained through swarming will occur to everyone in practice, so that soon instead of deploring its abundance one will be likely to wish for more.

There is one principle that is valuable in this connection which I should recall before passing, and that is, that a colony having a laying queen of the current year's rearing

can be pretty surely relied upon not to desire to swarm, no matter how strong it may be made within any reasonable bounds; and the same rule holds if it has a virgin queen, if there be not also occupied queen-cells in the hive. This fact may be taken advantage of to safely make some of the strongest possible colonies, and at the same time the most profitable ones, notwithstanding the notion that some cherish (but without good reason, I believe) that the possession of a virgin queen renders a colony unprofitable for comb honey.

How best to minimize the disadvantages of swarming which give rise to the other objections I have mentioned, is a somewhat more difficult matter. The absconding of prime swarms can be almost certainly prevented by having had the wings of the queens previously clipped, which is most conveniently done about the first of May preceding, but, though I have hitherto been strongly in favor of it, and would take as a choice of evils in the absence of the queen-trap, I find it liable in an apiary of any considerable extent where there is little danger of swarms clustering out of convenient reach, to one valid objection, and that is, that swarms usually remain a tantalizingly long time in the air, giving an unnecessarily pressing invitation to other swarms, and perhaps virgin queens to join them, thus complicating the matter of successful hiving. In small apiaries this objection would not have the same validity, but in any case there is first the danger of the loss of valuable queens, and then in nine or ten days, in the absence of the apiarist, the loss of powerful swarms with virgin queens, so I now consider the queen trap indispensable unless one is willing to watch his bees continually during the swarming season, and even then it is a great convenience.

For this purpose, the trap should be so made that the queen once in it cannot return to the hive. This enables the apiarist to determine, with the exercise of a very little attention, whether a swarm has issued during his absence from any given hive or not, by the conduct of the bees and the greater or less cluster remaining with the queen in the trap. If a swarm has issued and returned, usually the trap is found full of bees, or nearly so; in such case I return the queen and bees to the hive and readjust the trap with the expectation that in a day or two I shall discover them making their next attempt, or, if I had no such expectation, I would shake out enough bees to make a good swarm and give them with the queen in the ordinary way.

A trap full of bees at the entrance of a hive from which the prime swarm, or at

least the old queen has been taken, indicates that the young queen has attempted to issue; if the trap has but few bees, it shows that the young queen has attempted to take her mating flight, or perhaps sometimes that she has got into the trap in endeavoring to escape from a rival. In either case, swarming is over, and the trap should be removed and the queen returned, unless it is certain the colony still has one.

It is best then, I think, to keep traps on all colonies likely to swarm, removing them as soon as the danger is over, being particularly careful on this point in the case of those having virgin queens. When a swarm is discovered issuing, remove the trap, thus allowing the queen to go with the swarm, which induces speedy and perfect clustering, when it may be secured in a moment in a basket.

A light pole to which a basket is attached near the farther end, serves both to shake out and secure most swarms that cluster out of reach of the hand.

For the highest success in the production of comb honey, strong swarms are desirable, and hiving swarms on the old stand not only conduces to their strength, but has also a strong tendency, often almost prohibitive, to prevent afterswarms. However, with the methods I use there is a limit to the profitable strength of swarms. If they exceed seven or eight pounds in weight, there is apt to be discontent and an early preparation to swarm again, even if they do not persist in attempting to abscond. This determination to abscond is a difficulty which I had to encounter very frequently during swarming seasons owing principally, no doubt, to the small size of the brood-chamber and removing the lower section in two days. This plan has proved a decided relief in the management of swarms.

Little need be said in addition to meet the objection made against swarming on account of the time required for attending to it. Most prime swarms issue between 9 o'clock a. m. and 12 o'clock a. m. so that with the traps, three hours a day answers very well. In case of necessity, even less time may be made to serve without serious loss, even to so little as three hours every third day.

It is possible that there may be a little danger of swarms going away with the virgin queens on their mating flight, but it is not great, for such queens are distasteful to prime swarms, though a stray laying queen is acceptable.

If a prime swarm and an afterswarm with their queen unite, the young queen will usually be found balled, and it is seldom worth while to separate them

because there will almost certainly be sufficient of the prime swarm with the young queen to destroy her or break up the colony.

Some complaint is made that queens escape through the perforated zinc of the queen-trap. The perforations in my traps are  $5/32$  of an inch, and no queens escape.—Review. Lapeer, Mich., July 7.

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### Personal Mention.

Mr. Chas. Dadant, of the firm of Chas. Dadant & Son, the well-known comb foundation makers, made us a very pleasant call on Tuesday, July 28. He was on his way to Sturgeon Bay, Wis., where he goes annually for a month or so in order to avoid an attack of hay fever were he to remain at his home in Hancock county, Illinois.

Mr. Dadant says they have 325 colonies of bees now, and they had extracted about 5,000 pounds of honey so far, with more to follow. One year they had about 45,000 pounds from about the same number of colonies as they now have.

In speaking of beeswax, Mr. D. mentioned a very simple test to detect adulteration. Have a vial partly filled with water, into which is put a small piece of beeswax of known purity. Then pour in alcohol until the piece of beeswax sinks to the bottom of the vial. Now put in a piece of the beeswax you wish to test—if it floats it is adulterated; if it goes to the bottom it is all right.

When Mr. Dadant first came to this country, from France—over 30 years ago—he found on the bank of the Mississippi river a single small plant of sweet clover. It was quite a distance from his home, but when it was time for the seed to be ripe, he went after it, and scattered it so that it might spread. Later he also gave some seed to a friend near Keokuk, across the river. By following up the practice he soon had a great deal of sweet clover growing, and in fact now it is pretty well spread over a good share of the States bordering on the Mississippi, and Mr. Dadant believes that much of it is the result of the one plant which he watched so carefully, and in due time scattered its seed. He values sweet clover very highly as a honey-plant.

Upon reaching the United States, Mr. Dadant, and his family were almost penniless. So both he and his good wife (who departed this life about a year ago)

had to work hard in order to get along. They picked and sold blackberries about the first season and from the money thus made Mr. D. paid \$5.00 for an Italian queen—and she was not even a warranted one. Mrs. Dadant disavored paying \$5.00 thus but said very little. But the next year Mr. D. sold some queens reared from her for \$10.00 each. He began with two colonies, and increased from year to year until the bees became his main source of revenue.

For a man 79 year of age Mr. Dadant is remarkably well-preserved. In fact we do not remember ever seeing him looking better than now. We wish him yet many happy years, in which we are sure the thousands who have read his practical and helpful articles in the Bee Journal will most heartily unite.

While this is rather a lengthy "personal mention," we think no one will object to it, or even feel slighted if they do not receive one of equal length when "their turn" comes.—The American Bee Journal.

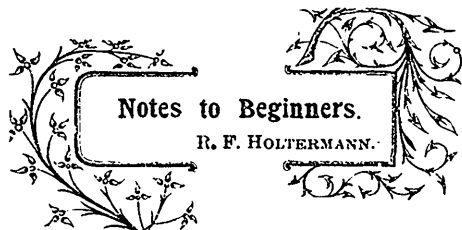
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### Conditions of the Market.

Reports continue to arrive giving advices of an unusual honey yield in the east; which is uncertain as to the affect upon the price upon California honey. We think if the eastern yield affects any class it will be the comb honey producers. Comb honey is more extensively produced in the east than extracted honey, and ours will come in direct competition with it. Our comb honey is usually put up in the western shipping case which many times is a rough-looking affair beside the eastern case, and as the best appearing package sells first, the eastern producers will have that advantage.

Extracted honey is not so much the product of the east as it is of the west, and we think, owing to the use of extracted honey for manufacturing purposes, that it will hold its own.

One encouraging sign for an advance is the rise in the price of sugar. The leading sweet controls in a great measure all other sweets. Considering the extremely low prices of all other food products, honey is holding its own, and we are confident prices will improve after the heated term, and the fruit season is over. Nearly all honey sold previous to cool weather is moved upon purely speculative purposes. Proper time to sell our product is very much of a problem well worthy the attention of producers.—The Rural Californian.



I have always valued highly, upon bee-keeping, the opinions of Mr. Jacob Alpaugh. Particularly so in connection with outside wintering. As this winter we shall have something like two hundred colonies to winter, I have decided to experiment in wintering about half of them outside. To get the benefit of Mr. Alpaugh's experience I took the Monday morning train to Galt, and by arrangement met Mr. Alpaugh at the station. We of course talked over many subjects of interest. Mr. Alpaugh is a good bee-keeper, but what I wish just now to refer to is his outside case for wintering. The case contains four hives, two side by side in pairs. Entrances of pairs facing in opposite directions. Mr. Alpaugh makes a platform of boards nailed on scantling for the bottom, the sides and ends are made of two 10-inch boards, the pieces being fastened together by a cleat. The cleat ends far enough above the lower edge of the board to allow the board to project over the bottom board, being level with the lower side of the bottom boards and the cleats rest on the boards. This sheds rain. The sides and fronts of the case are made of inch stuff, ripped and dressed on one side, tongued and grooved. The cover is made of the same thickness, but the boards are not joined, being connected with strips of cotton which are stuck to the boards directly after the first coat of paint has been applied to the cover. The strips are also nailed at the ends. Instead of the strips of cotton being put on tightly they are bent down between the boards, forming quite a little trough. This allows for contraction and expansion of the boards. The boards are run across the clamp and nailed at the ends to a piece of board seven-eighths inches by two inches. The boards are nailed to the seven-eighths side. The case is now pitched a little sideways, so that the water runs off one side and does not interfere with the entrance of the hives. The hives are placed about an inch apart in the cases dividing the space at the sides equally. Two entrances three inches square from the lower edge up, thus bringing the entrance in the middle of the hive. Mr.

Alpaugh prefers dry forest leaves for packing. He packs almost one quarter inch under the front of the hives and an inch under the back giving the forward pitch. A bridge one and a half inches high by three inches long, outside measure, and just wide enough to correspond to the length of the projection or front of bottom board, is placed opposite the three inch hole in the front of the case. The balance of the entrance is closed by the packing of forest leaves only. Before packing Mr. Alpaugh shoves a piece of cardboard, with a hole one half inch square, ho'e down, between the bridge and front of hive, and far enough down to be reachable under the bridge with a knife. He then packs with forest leaves, fairly tightly, all about each hive. He breaks the quilt loose at the back and inserts between the quilt and the hive a few pieces of quarter-inch strips to save the quilt and allow a slight circulation. Forest leaves fill the remainder of the case. When decidedly cold weather comes he draws the piece of cardboard down with a knife point, leaving only a half inch square entrance. Mr. Alpaugh says kept thus warm about the entrance he has never yet had it clogged, and when the bees want more entrance, they can gnaw it. He paints the case with several coats of dark paint, and leaves them there until the honey harvest.

### Surplus Boxes.

Surplus boxes should not be put on until the bees are ready for them. While it is the proper thing to give plenty of room for bees to store honey, yet it is a mistake to give it at the wrong time. Too much space in early spring, when the bees are breeding rapidly is a detriment to them and will retard breeding. It is better to contract the space if the bees are not strong, than to add more to it in this instance. When the space is suited to the colony they can better economise heat, the most essential thing if brood rearing. A hive should be full of bees and a good supply of brood present at any time before adding boxes. Almost every locality has its principal honey flow, which usually occurs the last of May or first of June and lasts six or eight weeks. Ordinarily, when this begins is the right time to add surplus boxes, and in case colonies are very strong previous to this time they may be put on sooner. It will not pay to use boxes that

do not contain comb or foundation starters, and it will be found a good investment to buy comb foundation and use it liberally. One pound of comb foundation when drawn out and completed will hold about fifty pounds of honey, and to produce one pound of comb bees consume about fifteen pounds of honey, and some insist that they consume twenty. At any rate, the least estimate put on it would be equivalent to \$1 50 per pound. The ready made foundation costs 40 cents per pound, hence will be seen the gain by its use. This does not cover all the advantages of foundation, for it is perhaps as valuable in other particulars. With its use we get straight and perfect combs, and regulate the supply of drones to almost any number we wish or exclude them entirely from hive. In natural building of comb by the bees, without any exception, we have an immense surplus of worthless drones, and it is no use to set up the argument that bees know best in this respect how to regulate this supply.

During the honey harvest, bees should have about a fifty-pound surplus capacity to the colony, and in some cases more. The common method of raising comb honey is by the use of section boxes usually weighing one pound each. These are used in crates or supers, each super accommodating one tier of twenty-four sections. These supers are arranged so that they may be placed one on top of the other and any number of tiers may thus be used and the bees have access to all of them. Ordinarily, two tiers are used at once, and in some cases three, but if the honey is not removed as fast as the sections are completed, but left on until the end of the honey flow, more are used, being stacked up one above the other, finished sections always kept the highest and those to be filled near the bees. It is preferable to use less space, and remove the sections as fast as completed, and by this means we get a finer class of honey, as it will become more or less soiled if left on the hive any time.

In extracting, the ordinary frame is used and an upper story only is added. In some cases, perhaps, it is tiered up as in comb honey, but not usually. When a colony is too powerful to occupy a two-story hive in extracting, I would prefer to let them swarm, or divide them. Where the Langstroth hive is used, or one similar to it, that takes a frame about the same size, eight of them are used in the upper story, and for extracting, seven frames are more convenient. Honey for the extractor, like comb honey, is the best taken as the bees store it and not left on the hive any longer than it is ready to come off.—Kansas Farmer.

### A Trip to Pelee Island and Other Points.

On the last day of September, I left Brantford on a business trip to Medina, Ohio, and intended to visit Essex, Kent, and other points upon my return. The Michigan Central Railway, which by the way, is in my estimation, the best-equipped, run, and managed railway in Canada, and my favorite road on which to travel, was taken to Detroit, and from there I went by one of the fine boats running from Detroit to Cleveland. I left Brantford at 6 o'clock in the evening and reached Cleveland 6 o'clock the following morning. A big hour's run from Cleveland brought me to Medina, Ohio, when I visited the establishment of the A. I. Root Co. I have before mentioned the establishment. My time was largely spent in discussing new features in the bee supplies and live questions in bee-keeping. Notes and ideas were compared which we hope left both parties wiser, and better-fitted for the future. For my part I can always say that my frequent visits to Medina have been of advantage to me in deciding upon equipments and supplies to be manufactured for the future.

I of course met Mr. Weel of comb foundation fame. I think he was in a particularly amiable frame of mood and we parted with mutual regrets.

On my return to Cleveland I called on Dr. J. M. Lewis, Permanent Building, Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, a gentleman with whom I first became acquainted through the Root family and Gleanings in Bee Culture. Many of our readers will doubtless have become acquainted with him through Gleanings in Bee Culture. Dr. Lewis benefited Mr. A. I. Root and Ernest, both of whom were badly run down, in part at least, owing to the strain of work during the busy season. Dr. Lewis, in their estimation (and I can now fully endorse all the praise they have ever bestowed upon him) is a very skilful physician. He is a gentleman of culture and wide experience. The cases which he treats are those which the ordinary physician has failed to cure or has given up. Dr. Lewis cures largely by a system of diet, which he carefully supervises, which will enable the stomach to digest the largest amount of



nourishing food with the least amount of labor and strength. He cleanses the system by the drinking of hot water at regular and proper times. This, too he regulates and he assists by giving a little medicine. I am thoroughly convinced that Dr. Lewis has cured consumption, and Bright's Disease, not too advanced, and his power and ability to effect cures go much beyond what I at one time considered it possible for a physician to do. During the fall of 1895 and again 1896, after the heavy season's mental and physical work combined I was laid up with malarial fever and frequent bronchial trouble. As a result of a course of treatment from Dr. Lewis, and rules of living he laid down for me I have come through the past season feeling perfectly well and assuredly our business has been greater than ever. I am grateful to Ernest Root that he was instrumental in inducing me to communicate with Dr. Lewis, and someone who reads this may at some future time feel as grateful to me. But I am out of the doctor's hands, thanks to his skill I returned by boat to Detroit and took the morning train to Tilbury, where I visited Mr. N. Smith, who was associated with his brother in the notorious adulterated foundation swindles. Mr. Smith is in the jewelry business, and I caught him red-handed repairing a watch. From there I visited Mr. J. A. Foster. He is a well-known bee-keeper and handles supplies for G., S. & M. Co. He also keeps bees and works a farm. Since I saw him last he has settled down to married life. I made the acquaintance of his wife and saw the baby. From here I went to my brother-in-law's, Herman Pettit, who runs a large barrel-heading business and store at Pettit Mills, near Comber, as well as a good farm. Herman and his wife Beatrice have a nice family of three children and I enjoyed my stay there very much. Mr. Pettit is not a bee keeper, but in the afternoon we drove to the farm of Mr. Daniel Stuart, near Comber. Mr. Stuart has been in the bee business many years. He uses the Langstroth hive and takes some very fine comb honey with separators. He is recognized as an old and successful bee-keeper and I understand frequently sends comb honey to Detroit in the face of the heavy duty on honey. From Comber I went to the township of Romney, Kent County, which is getting to be one of the finest agricultural districts in Canada. A thorough system of drainage has been organized but land is still cheap. South of the ridge I feel sure there is some of the best peach land in Canada. Those holding it have as far as know not yet realized its

value; doubtless someone will in time. From here I went to Leamington and joined my brother-in-law. It was our intention to leave by sail boat next morning for Pelee Island, 15 miles from Leamington. The morning proved so rough and the winds so contrary that we had to go on to Kingsville and put out from there, the intention being to have ours and two other boats row us over to the Island. The sea was so high that one boat never got out, the other two, our own among the number, were compelled to keep away from the steamer until she got out into deeper water. One of these not our own, which had in the meantime made considerable way, reached the steamer after repeated fruitless efforts. Our boat was well handled by Captain Brown and we could have reached Pelee Island without the aid of the steamer, but when close to Pelee Island she took us in tow, the steamer having meanwhile rolled to such an extent that one stove broke loose. In the meantime our own boat had been shipping more or less water continually. With the exception of my brother-in-law and myself, the balance of the passengers had been dispensing charities with as little ostentation as possible, and the duty of manning the pumps rested us. Aside from the mean way in which the balance of the passengers occupied themselves in charitable contributions over the side of the boat, there was just enough excitement to thoroughly enjoy the trip over, which took about six hours. The island is a wonderful spot. We spent twenty-four hours on it, and having our wheels with us we saw a good deal, amongst other things a natural swarm on October 5th, but of this more will be told in the next issue of the Canadian Bee Journal.

### Notes and Pickings.

By D. W. HEISE.

Some few years ago I commenced using an escape board for ridding the comb honey supers of bees. This was a device of my own construction, and consisted of a board of sufficient size to completely cover the super, with a bee space between the sections and board. At one end an escape was placed with six exits, all facing one way. The supers were taken off the hives and placed on top of each other, and the escape board placed on top. The result was that the supers were rapidly cleared of bees.

By way of experiment I added two Porter single exit, and two lightning double exit escapes, making in all 12 exits. In several tests I could not see that there was any gain in having a number of exits. When the bees start through one particular exit and set up the call, that one alone was used to any extent while the balance were practically idle. I think the result of my experiment is identical with that of the Porters, and others who have made extensive experiments in this direction.

A case of cruelty to insects came under my notice quite recently, where fruiterers and grocerymen in a certain town were exposing broken and decomposing fruits inside an open door. The bees were attracted by the sweets and would enter the door, fill themselves with juice, sweets, etc., then fly on the window, where they would soon exhaust themselves with flying up and down for liberty, finally falling to the bottom to rise no more.

It is strange that men will suffer a nuisance of this kind to exist, when the investment of a few dollars in a screen door would protect them against the little intruders, and also save the lives of hundreds and thousands of bees I noticed in one particular place of business fully one peck of dead bees lying in the show-window. I think it would pay bee-keepers who are situated closely to places of this kind to supply them with proper door and window protection if they will not do so themselves.

Since the Buffalo convention my stature and size generally have increased immensely, as well as my aspirations and ambition. The reason is simply this. While at the convention something like half-a-dozen beekeepers extended the hand of friendship and addressed me as Mr. Root, meaning Ernest of course. Keep your eye skinned ye editor for the announcement in the near future of the birth of another apicultural journal, to be called Gleanings in Canadian Bee-Culture, with D. W. H. Root as editor and proprietor. On account of my new swelled head, I may also establish a supply factory and perhaps build a railroad, over which to ship the car loads of supplies all over Canada, and perhaps over the U. S. too. Jupiter but haven't I got it bad. So bad in fact that I have a resistless desire to immortalize myself, as Dr. Brown says, and my head is still swelling. Therefore Mr. Editor you might as well make the announcement in next issue, just to prevent any future misunderstanding. Of course you will give the youngster some journalistic pap, not that it will be likely

to require any, but just to show that there is no illwill you know. See?

[Probably this swelled head has since been coming down and will account for the headache you had at the York Bee-Keepers' Convention.—Ed.]

That new idea brought out in R. C. Aikin's paper at the Buffalo convention, about it being more profitable to cut combs out of extracting frames, and squash the honey out of the comb, by running the whole through between rollers, is rather a strange procedure to my mind. Even though his idea is correct about the price of honey declining and that of wax advancing, and therefore it would be more profitable to convert the honey into wax. But why resort to the clothes-wringer method of washing all up? Why not extract the honey in the ordinary way, and thus save a mussy, stickey operation of separating the honey and wax, which would necessarily follow the roller smashing process. Furthermore, suppose every bee-keeper throughout our broad land were to follow up Mr. Aikin's idea, how long, I would ask, would it be, before the state of affairs would be reversed with the price of wax rapidly declining, and that of honey advancing? What then? Flop I suppose. The thing may work. I don't know.

[You need not fear that everyone will adopt this method. While I agree with you on the question I never like to hear the above argument advanced.—Ed.]

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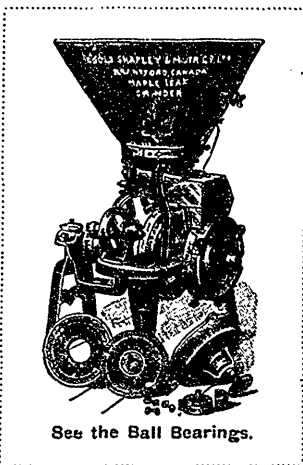
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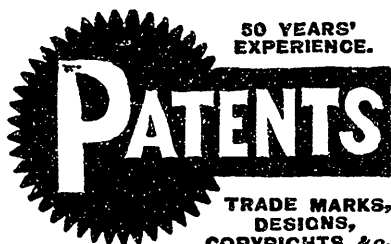
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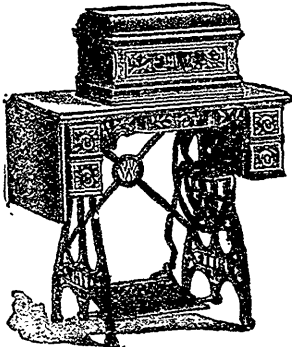
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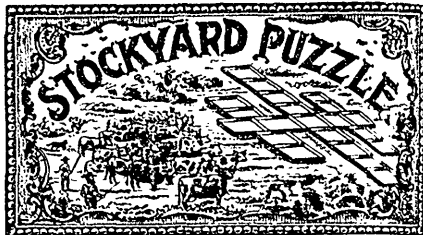
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